

Abstract

The present invention makes it possible to reduce the amount of refrigerant used and shorten the amount of time over which the new air conditioner must be run in a refrigerant pipe washing mode when an air conditioner that used a mineral-oil-based 5 refrigerant oil is updated to or replaced with an air conditioner using an HFC refrigerant as the working refrigerant and the existing refrigerant piping is reused as is. With the present invention, when an air conditioner 1 that used a mineral-oil-based refrigerant oil is updated to or replaced with an air conditioner using an HFC refrigerant as the working refrigerant and the existing refrigerant piping (6, 7) is to be used as is, the residual 10 refrigerant oil in the refrigerant piping (6, 7) is removed by washing the refrigerant piping (6, 7) using a cleaning agent comprising an HFC refrigerant containing at least 40 wt% of R32.

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